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Penthestes gambeli gambeli. Mountain Chickadee. Abundant resident; common within the city limits.

Penthestes rufescens rufescens. Chestnut-backed Chickadee. Not common resident. Occasionally seen in alder swamp at east end of Fernan Lake.

Regulus satrapa olivaceus. Western Golden-crowned Kinglet. Abundant resident of coniferous timber and thickets.

Myadestes townsendi. Townsend Solitaire. Not common winter visitor. Specimen collected in city limits, January 10, 1913.

Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni. Olive-backed Thrush. Common summer resident of the dense thickets. Nest with four fresh eggs in small fir tree on brushy hillside, June 27.

***Hylocichla guttata guttata.** Alaska Hermit Thrush. Several seen in dense thickets in September; specimens collected September 12 and 24.

Planesticus migratorius propinquus. Western Robin. Abundant summer resident; a few may remain during mild winters. Earliest migration date, February 11; fall migration in October.

Ixoreus naevius naevius. Varied Thrush. Fairly common resident, preferring dense thickets along canyon streams and swamps.

Sialia mexicana occidentalis. Western Bluebird. Common summer resident. Spring migration, first week in March; fall, middle of October.

Sialia currucoides. Mountain Bluebird. Common summer resident, arriving the first week in March. Fall migration in October.

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, January 5, 1915.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

A Northern Winter Record of the Phainopepla.—On February 12, 1915, after a severe and protracted storm, I collected an adult female Phainopepla (*Phainopepla nitens*) within the city of Marysville, California. The species is rare in this vicinity; even in summer its appearance is quite casual. When discovered, this individual was feeding upon a cluster of mistletoe berries in a black walnut tree. It was not particularly shy and was reluctant to desert such an excellent feeding ground, as I found when I attempted to frighten her from the place. She refused to leave, and, after circling widely, returned to the tree. Examination of the bird in hand showed it to be in apparent good health, and the body was very fat. The stomach was distended with the mistletoe berries.—CARL S. MULLER, *Marysville, California.*

Three New Records for Kansas.—In a preliminary examination of a collection of bird skins made personally at Independence, southeastern Kansas, in 1904 and 1905, three forms have been identified that apparently have not been previously recorded from that State. All are Lower Austral forms ranging up from the south along the valley of the Verdigris River.

A Flicker (male, no. 584, coll. A. W.), taken November 28, 1904, is *Colaptes auratus auratus*, as it has a wing measurement of only 151.3 millimeters. The Northern Flicker occurs also as a winter migrant, and is represented by specimens in the collection.

Two Downy Woodpeckers secured are *Dryobates pubescens pubescens*. These specimens have the following measurements (in millimeters):

	Wing	Tail
No. 683 (coll. A. W.), male, Jan. 3, 1905.....	87.8	53.5
No. 783 (coll. A. W.), female, March 1, 1905.....	88.5	57.0

The Chickadees from this region are of more interest. Thirteen were secured, ranging in dates from December 5, 1904, to April 27, 1905, and all are referred to *Penthestes carolinensis agilis*. The northern limit of the Texas Chickadee has been given as Stillwell and Fort Reno, Oklahoma (Ridgway, *Birds of North and Middle America*, vol. III, p. 406). These Kansas records, therefore, constitute an important extension in the known range of this form.—ALEX WETMORE, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

Red Phalaropes Near Corona, California.—Two male Red Phalaropes (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) were shot November 7, 1914, on one of the ponds of the Pomona Recreation Club, which is situated near the Santa Ana River, about eight miles north of Corona, Riverside County, California. The two birds are now numbers 506 and 507 of my collection. It would seem that this is worthy of note since this species usually migrates over the ocean, and this locality where they were taken is a considerable distance inland.—WRIGHT M. PIERCE, *Claremont, California*.

Some Extreme Nesting Dates.—In comparing Willett's *Birds of the Pacific Slope of Southern California* with some of my own notes, I find the following nesting dates among the latter, that appear somewhat unusual:

Selasphorus alleni. Allen Hummingbird. Catalina Island, March 22, 1910; two eggs, incubation advanced.

Sturnella neglecta. Western Meadowlark. Los Angeles, February 15, 1909; four eggs, fresh.

Hirundo erythrogastra. Barn Swallow. Balboa Beach, June 13, 1908; two eggs, fresh.

Riparia riparia. Bank Swallow. San Pedro, April 26, 1908; five eggs, incubation advanced.

Lanius ludovicianus gambeli. California Shrike. Los Angeles, February 8, 1908; four eggs, fresh.—D. I. SHEPARDSON, *Los Angeles, California*.

Yellow-billed Loon:—A Correction.—In writing the life history of the little-known species *Gavia adamsi*, I have been puzzled to know what to do with the supposed Colorado record of this species. I have always suspected that the record was based on erroneous identification, as Colorado is so far away from the known range or migration route of this Arctic Loon.

The specimen upon which the record was based was taken by Mr. William G. Smith, near Loveland, Colorado, on May 25, 1885. A letter from Mr. Smith to Major Bendire, giving the details of its capture, is now in my hands and states that the bird was sold to Mr. Manly Hardy of Brewer, Maine, now deceased.

Knowing that the Hardy collection was recently purchased for the Rhode Island Audubon Society and is now in the Park Museum in Providence, I wrote to my friend, Mr. Harry S. Hathaway, of that city, for his opinion as to the identity of the specimen. He very kindly investigated the matter and sent me his report, together with a letter on the subject from Mrs. Fanny Hardy Eckstorm, which strengthened my doubts and practically convinced me that the record was based on an error.

For my own personal satisfaction, I went to Providence and examined the specimen with Mr. Hathaway. It is not a Yellow-billed Loon, but it is a very curious specimen of a Common Loon (*Gavia immer*), and I am not surprised that Mr. Hardy and others who have seen it have been puzzled. Its entire plumage is decidedly worn, and faded to a dull brownish shade. It is a young male in the immature plumage of the first year. Its bill is certainly yellow, the yellowest or lightest colored bill I have ever seen in any young Loon, which probably led to its identification as *Gavia adamsi*; but the size and shape of the bill agrees with *Gavia immer* and not with *G. adamsi*. The culmen measures about 3.20 inches, and the depth of the bill at the base is about .90. Ridgway's *Manual* gives, for *adamsi*, culmen 3.50 to 3.65, and depth 1.00 to 1.20, and for *immer*, culmen 2.75 to 3.50 and depth .90 to 1.05 inches. The bird in question is small, even for *Gavia immer*, notwithstanding the fact that it is a male, and it has a particularly slender bill, even for that species, instead of the large, heavy bill, with the straight culmen so characteristic of *Gavia adamsi*.

It is only fair to Mr. Hardy to say that he was in doubt about the bird and that the record never ought to have stood without verification. I cannot understand why some one who was competent to identify the bird, did not examine the specimen before the record was published, which would have prevented the frequent repetition of an error which can never be wholly rectified. Such errors are far too common and I hope that this one will be corrected in the next edition of the A. O. U. *Check-List*.—A. C. BENT, *Taunton, Massachusetts*.

A Remarkable Flight of Sparrow Hawks.—While travelling north on the Santa Fe Railway above Albuquerque, New Mexico, along the Rio Grande River, in the late afternoon of September 13, 1914, an enormous flight of Western Sparrow Hawks (*Falco sparverius phalaena*) was passed. Thousands sailed by in a continuous stream, all working leisurely south, often a hundred or more in sight from the car window at one time. Individuals frequently alighted on convenient trees and telegraph poles, and all seemed on the lookout for food. The flight seemed to be confined to the vicinity of the river and its adjacent thickets of rank weeds and willows interspersed with stretches of green meadow and alfalfa.

A very few larger hawks were seen, but whether migrating with the Sparrow Hawks, or not, could not be determined. Of these, a Prairie Falcon, a dark Swainson Hawk, and a male Marsh Hawk were identified.

As no specimens were taken it is probably presuming to state positively that these were the Western variety. Why shouldn't they be Eastern, or even both Eastern and Western, drawn together from a vast expanse of barren territory along the converging tributaries of the Rio Grande River, and held in a concentrated flight by the grasshoppers and mice so abundant in this oasis strip?

Travelling south along the Rio Grande river on the morning of September 15th, two days later, in the vicinity of Rincon, New Mexico, some two hundred miles farther south, not a trace of this flight was left. Or had the birds not yet arrived?—J. EUGENE LAW, *Hollywood, California*.

Black-and-White Warbler at Berkeley, California.—March 18, 1915, a female Black-and-White Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) was noted in a large live oak tree on the lower part of the University of California campus. When first seen, against a strong light, its colors could not be made out, but its actions resembled those of a creeper. Later it was seen under more favorable conditions. The strikingly contrasted black and white striping on the upper surface and the unmarked under parts (indicative of the female), the zigzag hopping movement along the larger limbs and short circling flights were all then clearly noted. Compared with other warblers occurring on the campus it seems to spend more of its time on the under surface of large limbs. A faint call note was the only sound heard. Mr. A. C. Shelton and Mr. E. P. Rankin were present at the time the bird was seen and we all immediately repaired to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and verified the identification by examining skins of this and other species. To my knowledge this is the fifth record of the species for California.—TRACY I. STORER, *Berkeley, California*.

Early Spring Notes from West-Central California.—The following are some data picked up this spring (1915) at odd moments during my regular work along railroad lines.

February 19. On train along south shore of San Pablo Bay from Oakland to Port Costa. Estimated number of ducks seen feeding close to shore, 5920. About 90 per cent of these appeared to be Canvas-backs, the remaining 10 per cent Blue-bills. This estimate did not include the thousands lying out on the bay, but only those close to shore.

March 18. A little east of Altamont, Alameda County. Nest of California Shrike in eucalyptus at deserted farm; placed about seven feet above the ground upon the main trunk, which had been cut off, and between the surrounding aftergrowth; contained six young about one week old.

March 31. Elliot Gravel Pit, near Pleasanton, Alameda County. A nest of the Mourning Dove built on the steeply sloping gravel surface of the steam shovel cut; situation notably exposed; contained two eggs about to hatch. On same day saw a pair of Yellow-headed Blackbirds in vicinity of a railroad barrow-pit filled with water.

April 7. Cayley, near Altamont pass, Alameda County. Young California Horned Larks barely able to fly, indicating an early date of nesting.

April 8. Altamont, Alameda County. Nest of Mourning Dove on the ground, containing two incubated eggs.—L. P. BOLANDER, *Oakland, California*.